



400 R STREET, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814-6200



The Consumer Affairs Act of 1970, Business and Profession Code Section 300 et al, which is the governing law for the Department of Consumer Affairs, requires the Department to represent the interests of California consumers before the State Legislature.

This Legislative Digest summarizes legislation that the Department reviewed on behalf of California consumers during the 2004 legislative year.

We hope that it serves as a useful resource for identifying legislation of interest.

Please don't hesitate to contact Robert Puleo, Manager of the Legislative and Regulatory Review Division, at (916) 327-5196 with any questions or comments.

Yours truly,

Charlene Zettel, Director
Department of Consumer Affairs

For further information on bills, relevant code sections, the Governor's veto messages, or bill authors, you can consult www.leginfo.ca.gov or your local legislator. For additional copies of the digest, please consult www.dca.ca.gov or contact the Department's Division of Legislative and Regulatory Review at (916) 327-5196.

Foreword

The Department of Consumer Affairs' (DCA) 2004 Legislative Digest is a summary of significant consumer protection legislation relative to DCA Boards, Bureaus, Commissions, and programs introduced during the 2003-2004 legislative session and finalized in 2004.

We have organized the Digest by subject category, bill number, and chapter number. Some bills may be referenced in more than one category.

Unless otherwise indicated, enacted bills become effective on January 1, 2004.

The **Contents** page lists each subject heading. The subject headings refer you to the summaries for each subject.

The **Bill Summaries** are organized numerically by bill number under each category. This section provides a brief summary of each bill, the bill's author, and its disposition.

There is also a **Bill Number Index** and a **Chaptered Bill Index**, for easy reference.

All department and agency references are for California entities, unless noted otherwise.

While we have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information in this digest, please refer to the California codes for exact statutory citations.